Representations made to Kelkar Committee

681. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in "The Indian Post Bombay" on 30th March, 1988 captioned "Decision on changes in DPCO Soon";

(b) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee has received a number of representations demanding for changes in classification of drugs and rectification of anomalies in the Report;

(c) if so, what is the total number of representations received from consumers, Medical Associations and Members of Parliament along with details of each;

(d) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee has considered all the representations and submitted their recommendations for changes;

(e) if so, when were the recommendations made;

(f) whether it is a fact that the committee is still functioning; and

(g) if so, upto which date?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) The requisite information has already been furnished in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 51 on 25th April, 1988.

Exemption from Price Control of Small Scale Drug Units

682. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3530 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th March, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under DPCO, 1979 only the small scale units having annual sales turn over of less than Rupees Fifty lacs were exempted from price control;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per Measures 1986, no sector of drug industry is to be exempted from price control;

(c) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry did not take any approval from the Cabinet to exempt small scale units;

(d) if so, under whose authority and approval this sector of Industry has been exempted;

(e) whether it is also a fact that there are a number of organised sector units marketing a number of category II products and have also introduced category II products after the announcement of DPCO, 1987 at very high prices without any approval from his Ministry after getting them manufactured from SSI Units; and

(f) if so, what are the details of such instance and action taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Exemption to SSI units has been granted after obtaining the approval of the competent authority.

(e) and (f) All SSI units who are not eligible for exemption have been directed to seek necessary price approval under DPCO, 1987.

Production stage of Codeine Phosphate etc.

683. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the companies permitted to produce Codeine Phosphate, Ethoheptazine, Dicyclomine Hcl, Mefenamic Acid, Naproxen, Diclofenic Sodium, Hydroxyzine Hcl and Methidilazine in the country along